



# **Sustainability: What Are WEEE Thinking?**

## **Sims Recycling Solutions**

March 9, 2011  
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# Agenda

1. The E-Waste Issue
2. Electronics Recycling at Sims Recycling Solutions
3. Challenges and Lessons Learned
4. Path forward

## Factors that drive Sustainability

- Driven by a few individuals and their passion
- Supported at senior levels
- Need a somewhat entrepreneurial environment
- Need to invest in education
- Need to tell stories
- Perseverance
- Constant feedback mechanisms





# The E-Scrap Issue

- In Canada the volume of e-scrap reached 225,000 tonnes in 2010
- 50-80% of all e-scrap generated in North America is shipped to developing countries, while the remainder is land filled
- Electronics contain a variety of materials that can pose problems to human health and the environment if not managed properly at end of life
- Only 11% of Canadian e-scrap is currently recycled properly
- Electronics recyclers vary, it is important to know where your materials are going



## Landfill and Illegal Export is NOT the Solution



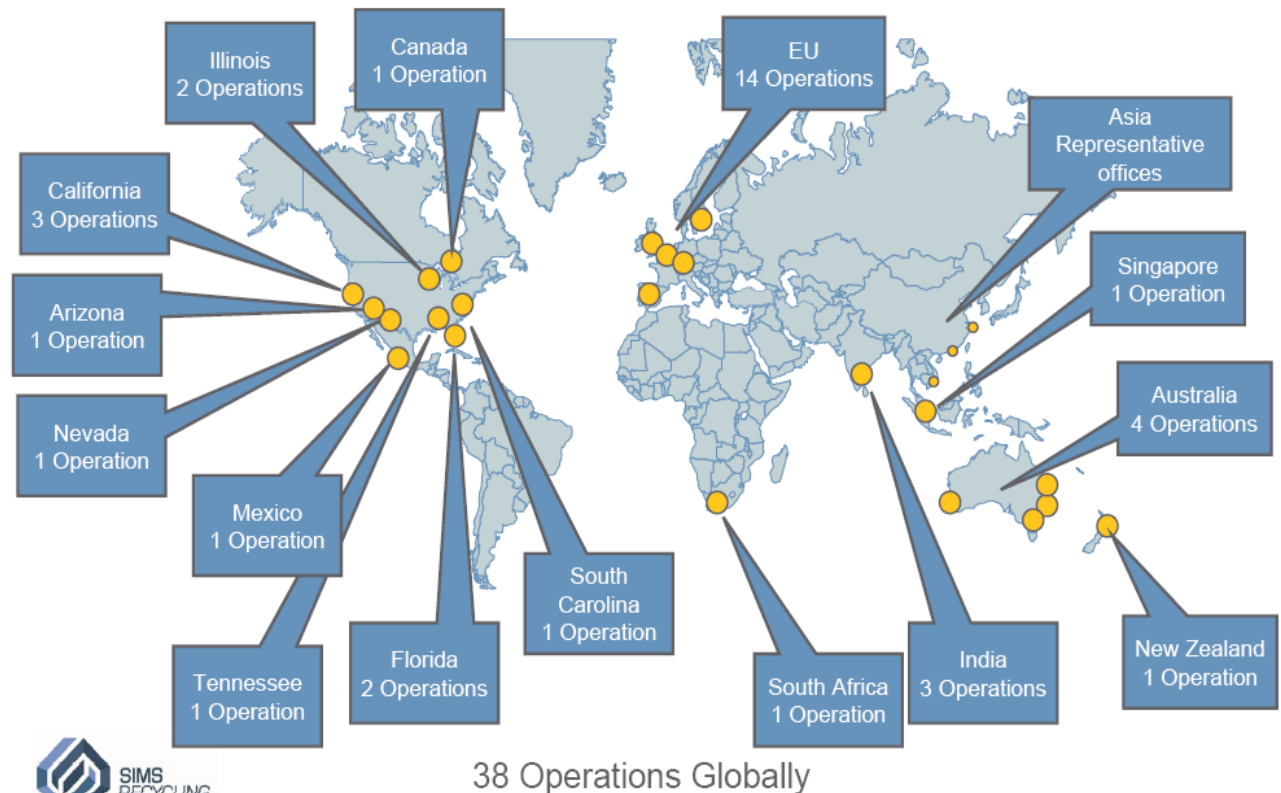
Children are at a greater risk of lead poisoning than adults, because they absorb about 50% of lead compared to 10% in adults





# Who is Sims Recycling Solutions

- Sims Recycling Solutions is part of Sims Metal Management, the world's largest metal & electronics recycling company
- Headquartered in Australia
- 7500 employees globally
- Publically traded on the Australian and New York Stock Exchange (SGM) (SMS)



# 40 Electronics Recycling Facilities Worldwide







# Sims Recycling Solutions Canada Overview

- Extensive Security and Brand Protection
- Largest Global Footprint
- Certified destruction
- Downstream accountability
- Sites are fully permitted
- No prison/child labour
- Publically traded, SOX compliant
- R&D on technology, EHS
- Industry leading SHEC practices
- ISO 14001 (2004) and OHSAS 18001 registered
- Global Management team involved in WEEE and Asset Management policy at the international, national and regional levels
- Full asset management service operator



***Protecting our PEOPLE, the ENVIRONMENT, and our customer's BRANDS***



## Leading the Way

### 100 MOST SUSTAINABLE CORPORATIONS 2009, 2010 & 2011 WINNER

- The Global 100 is a list of publicly-traded, MSCI World-listed companies that, based on research and analysis by [Innovest Strategic Value Advisors](#), have the best developed abilities, relative to their industry peers, to manage the environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks and opportunities they face. For more information log on to [www.global100.org](http://www.global100.org)
- Participants in Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP6)
- Listed on Dow Jones and FTSE4Good Sustainability Indices



# Growth

\$ millions in new green investment

200 new green jobs

Local solutions to waste issues

State of the art technology development globally

Maximizing resource recovery and reuse; higher recycling rates at better economics

Management of human health and environmental hazards

# Sims Newest Recycling Facility - Canada

Sims Recycling Solutions opened a new 290,000 sq./ft. facility in Mississauga  
CRT Processing Line  
Plastics Separation Technology





## Broad Challenges – E-waste as a proxy for a sustainability model

- Establishment of harmonized e-waste recycling standards
- Public private cooperation
- Enforcement
- Harmonization
- IPR versus EPR

# E-waste Recycling Standards

- General environment, industrial hygiene, safety regulations not enough
- ISO 14001, OHSAS 18000 not enough

Lead to development of e-waste specific standards for ESM

- R2 (US)
- E-stewardship (US)
- EPSC ERS (Canada) – 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration



# Electronic Recycling Standards

- To Best Practices
- Not consensus
- Consistent implementation
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Auditing
- Downstream Accountability
- Commodity Definitions



# Enforcement

- Canadian, US and EU experience – vast leakage of WEEE outside systems
- Definition of commodities
- Transit countries
- Spot unannounced audits



# Harmonization

Unfortunately, recycling still considered a subset of waste

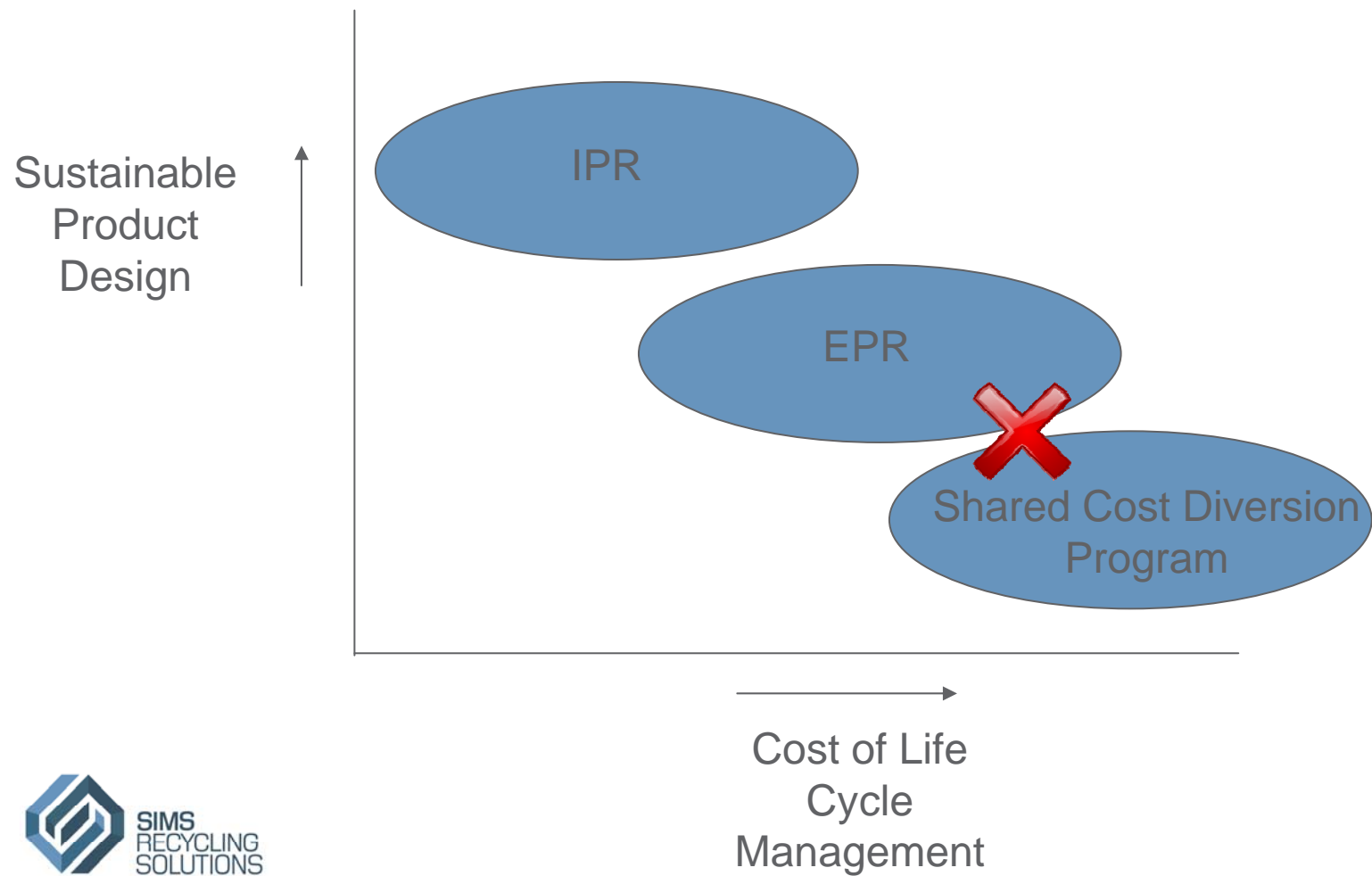
Waste is a provincial and state jurisdiction

Domestic: Different responses, programs, regulations, standards in every jurisdiction

(Canada 13); (US 50)

International: Infinitely more complex (Basel)

# Cost vs EPR vs IPR



# Public Private Partnership Needed

## Public Policy Responsibilities

- Ban Landfills
- Backdrop regulations to establish requirement for consumers to pay for collection, transportation and recycling of WEEE
- Manufacturers responsible for collecting and managing funds
- Establish economic incentives for recyclers approved to standard for electronics recycled
- Regulations to require recycling standards with 3<sup>rd</sup> party auditing
- Government responsible for enforcing recycling standards
- Monitor and control illegal exports
- IPR versus EPR

## Private Responsibilities

- If policy direction is correct, recycling market will engage
- If economic incentives set correctly, private entities will invest in better technology solutions - diversion
- Meet standard requirements



## Canada defines ESM: EPR and Standards = Stewardship Programs

### Successes:

- Backdrop legislation
- Established by OEM manufacturers
- Great standards on paper (downstream auditing)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> party audited

### Challenges:

- Recyclers audited to standard who don't meet standard – leakage issues
- Under collection of WEEE versus targets
- Centralized command and control versus free market response
- EPR, not IPR
- Monopolistic allocation and manipulation of recycling markets stifled creativity and investment into recycling technology and infrastructure

**If you were in charge, how would you make the electronic life cycle more sustainable?**